

subdivision board can do it at any time. Do not block out the citizens from this procedure and Senator Newell is raising it 50%. This is a 50% increase over where it was. Accept it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in support of Senator Newell's amendment. What this would do is drop it from 15% down to 7%. I feel it is a reasonable compromise and if we vote this on I am sure that the bill will advance. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, may I have the amendment read?

CLERK: (Read Newell amendment as found on page 1370 of the Journal.)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. That is what I thought the amendment said but Senator Newell had attached the 15% to the number of votes cast for Governor. Now that is what is done on most petitions that are submitted, a certain percentage of the number of people who voted in the county for the Governor during the last election. This changes the formula to whatever percent of the registered voters in the given political subdivision. So it, depending on the number of registered voters in a given political subdivision, it could be more or fewer than you would have based on that percentage of the number in that county who voted for Governor. I think since we are dealing with issues that are very important we ought to have them framed properly and not get in such a hurry, that we do one thing thinking we are doing something else as was done with LB 2. With all due respect to the former senators, I am not going to be rushed into doing any kind of thing on a bill as important as this. If you felt that you were taking a certain percentage of the number of votes cast for Governor in the last election, that is totally in error. What you are doing is taking a percentage of the number of registered voters in the given political subdivision. So if you were talking about a school board lid in Omaha the school district of Omaha does not include the entire city. So that would be a different number than if you were talking about a lid to be imposed on the City of Omaha. The City of Omaha includes more territory than the school district so I think you ought to consider before you immediately adopt this amendment. If you took a percentage of the number of votes cast for Governor in the county, then regardless of which